Morning Fax[®] Today's News...This Morning

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Friday, October 23, 2020

COVID Hits Nursing Center

Eleven residents at Sweetwater Nursing and Rehabilitation Center have died due to COVID-19. In addition, six more residents are in the hospital after testing positive for the virus. A spokesman says 12 residents are actively in isolation at the facility after positive test results, and 21 residents have recovered from the virus. Six staff members are in guarantine at home after testing positive. Seventeen staff members have recovered from the virus.

COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Thursday P.M.

Tennessee: 237,907 cases, up 2,046. 3,011 deaths, up 41.

	<u>Y</u> <u>CASES</u>	RECOVERED	,	DEATHS
McMinn	1,564 up 22	1,305	226	33 + 1
Meigs	300 up 3	248	47	5
Monroe	1,395 up 13	1,160	207	28 + 1
Polk	483 up 7	430	40	13
Bradley	3,479 up 32	3,196	260	23
Rhea	1,063 up 4	957	90	16

Saturday is Drug Take Back Day

On Saturday, Oct. 24th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Athens Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will give the public the opportunity to help prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. You can bring your pills to the Athens Police Department at 815 North Jackson Street. Police officers will be present in the parking lot so there is no need to leave your vehicle. Simply pull up and the officers will come to your vehicle and retrieve your unwanted medications. (Liquids, needles, or sharps will not be accepted, only pills or patches) Your unwanted pills can also be turned in at Walgreens (Cong. Pkwy.) and at the Meigs County Sheriffs Office. Saturday's drug take-back day is the 19th nationwide event since the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration started the program over 10 years ago. Last fall, Americans turned in nearly 883,000 pounds of prescription drugs. To keep everyone safe, collection sites will practice COVID precautions.





Obituaries

• Cheryl M. DiFronzo, age 70, of Athens, died Monday at Life Care Center of Athens. She worked many years as a secretary. The family has decided to hold a private service. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

• Sondra Jaye White, age 45, of Sweetwater, died Sunday at Fort Walton Beach Medical Center. She was an employee of Starr Regional Health and Rehab. Funeral services will be 3 p.m. Sunday at Union-McMinn Baptist Church with visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. Saturday at the church. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.

• Charles C. Marler, 87, of Athens, died Monday at UT Hospital. He was office manager for Hydratane Propane, a life insurance agent, and an employee of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. He also served in the Army National Guard and the Air Force during the Korean Conflict. A graveside service will be announced later. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.

• James Thomas "Jim" Brakebill, 88, of Niota, died Wednesday. He and his wife owned The Country Market for 18 years and had built homes all over McMinn County. A private graveside service will be held. Laycock-Hobbs is in charge.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE: The McMinn County Cherokees host Maryville...McMinn Central travels to Red Bank...and Meigs County will play at Polk County. Tennessee hosts Alabama on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on CBS.

Church News & Events

- Planted in Christ Outreach Fellowship invites you to join them for two Reformation Revival meetings with Pastor Bob Cornell, former professor at World Evangelism Bible College, Friday, Oct. 30th, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 31st, At 4 p.m. The church is located at 317 Maple Street, Athens.

- First Baptist Church of Etowah will have a Drive-thru Trunk of Treats on Wednesday, October 28th, from 5 to 7 p.m. Drive through, COVID-safe format, with larger prize packs mixed in.

- North Etowah Baptist Church, 231 Pennsylvania Avenue, will have a drive-through Fall Festival on Saturday, October 31st, from 3 to 5 p.m. They will have treat bags, hot dogs, and popcorn served to you in your car.

- Athens First Baptist Church will be presenting its annual Fall Festival on Wednesday, October 28th, at 6 p.m. There will be free candy, pony rides, pumpkin painting, a giant movie screen, and Biblical Wax Museum figures.

- The Athens Church of the Nazarene will host a Madison Avenue Holiday Market on Saturday, November 7th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There'll be crafts, jewelry, Christmas décor, and more.

- Transformation Project is a non-residential recovery and discipleship program that can also serve as an alternative sentencing program. There's no cost. It runs 12-18 months. Pick up an application Monday nights, at 6 p.m. at First Baptist Church, Athens.

- Everlasting Life Christian Center will celebrate pastors appreciation day for Pastor Kevin Harris on Sunday, Oct. 25.

